

§ 537.201(a), nor may their holder co-operate in or facilitate the pledging or other attempted use as collateral of blocked funds or other assets.

**§ 537.209 Expenses of maintaining blocked property; liquidation of blocked account.**

(a) Except as otherwise authorized, and notwithstanding the existence of any rights or obligations conferred or imposed by any international agreement or contract entered into or any license or permit granted before 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time, July 29, 2003, all expenses incident to the maintenance of physical property blocked pursuant to § 537.201(a) shall be the responsibility of the owners or operators of such property, which expenses shall not be met from blocked funds.

(b) Property blocked pursuant to § 537.201(a) may, in the discretion of the Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control, be sold or liquidated and the net proceeds placed in a blocked interest-bearing account in the name of the owner of the property.

**§ 537.210 Exempt transactions.**

(a) *Personal communications.* The prohibitions contained in this part, other than those set forth in § 537.203, do not apply to any postal, telegraphic, telephonic, or other personal communication that does not involve the transfer of anything of value.

(b) *Information or informational materials.* (1) The prohibitions contained in this part, other than those set forth in § 537.203, do not apply to the importation from any country, or the exportation to any country, whether commercial or otherwise, of information or informational materials, regardless of format or medium of transmission.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (b)(1) OF § 537.210: Section 537.203 prohibits the importation of products of Burma into the United States pursuant to the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003. Therefore, the importation into the United States of information or informational materials that are products of Burma is not exempt from the prohibition set forth in § 537.203. However, such transactions are authorized by the general license set forth in § 537.515.

(2) This section does not exempt from regulation or authorize transactions

related to information or informational materials not fully created and in existence at the date of the transactions, or to the substantive or artistic alteration or enhancement of informational materials, or to the provision of marketing and business consulting services. Such prohibited transactions include, but are not limited to, payment of advances for information or informational materials not yet created and completed (with the exception of prepaid subscriptions for widely-circulated magazines and other periodical publications); provision of services to market, produce or co-produce, create, or assist in the creation of information or informational materials; and, with respect to information or informational materials imported from persons whose property or interests in property are blocked pursuant to § 537.201(a), payment of royalties with respect to income received for enhancements or alterations made by U.S. persons to such information or informational materials.

(3) This section does not exempt from regulation or authorize transactions incident to the exportation of software subject to the Export Administration Regulations, 15 CFR parts 730-774, or to the exportation of goods, technology or software, or to the provision, sale, or leasing of capacity on telecommunications transmission facilities (such as satellite or terrestrial network connectivity) for use in the transmission of any data. The exportation of such items or services and the provision, sale, or leasing of such capacity or facilities to a person whose property or interests in property are blocked pursuant to § 537.201(a) are prohibited.

(c) *Pre-1997 contracts.* The prohibitions contained in this part, other than those set forth in § 537.203, do not apply to any activity undertaken pursuant to an agreement, or pursuant to the exercise of rights under such an agreement, that was entered into by a U.S. person with the Government of Burma or a non-governmental entity in Burma prior to 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on May 21, 1997.

(d) *Travel exemption.* The prohibitions contained in this part, other than the prohibition against the importation into the United States of products of